



Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 20, 2020, 6:00 pm
Minutes

1. Roll call/sign in

Trustees Sona Karia (Chair), George Sarkissian (Vice Chair), Latoya Massey, Ramon Perdomo (Sec'y), Gicele Adon, Dr. Jaynemie Angbah were present, constituting a quorum, via Zoom videoconference, pursuant to the Governor's emergency regulation, at a virtual location open to the public via Zoom meeting and designated on the Notice of Meeting. Also present was board candidate Tavanie Perez, and several members of Innovation's school staff.

2. Filing of Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the law, a notice of the meeting was published on the school's website, sent via email to the New York Times and posted publicly on the Innovation High School Website. Physical posting at the school was not possible because the school building had been closed by orders of the Governor and the Mayor.

3. Consent Agenda (5 minutes, ED)

- a. Approval of Meeting Minutes, 9/20-10/20 (Deferred to 11/17/2020 Meeting)**

4. Review and Approval of FY'20 certified financial statements and Q4 Report (20 minutes, BKD, Assoc. Dir. of Finance, ED)

Atiba Fraser introduces Eric Goldfarb of BKD Finance. Mr. Goldfarb BKD works closely with Mr. Fraser and Ms. Barbarash, from CSBM, Innovation's financial consultant, to ensure that the financial reports are accurate. Mr. Goldfarb says cash and current assets are up significantly from last year. Grants also saw an increase. Mr. Goldfarb also states that COVID-19 delayed timing for certain filings. Mr. Goldfarb says that we have done a good job of keeping program and management expenses down. Ms. Karia says from a cash reserve perspective we are on a good trajectory, and we are continuing to save for a rainy day. Mr. Perdomo makes a motion to approve the FY'20 Financial Statements and Ms. Massey seconds the motion. The board votes unanimously to approve the FY'20 Financial Statements.

5. Accountability Dashboard (20 Minutes, SMT/Assoc. Dir. Of Strategic Planning)

Mr. Pablo Torres (Director of Student Affairs and FCE) says enrollment is at 395, and will be 396 once a student starts on Thursday. Mr. Torres states that the school has signed up to work with a group called Schola, which specializes in targeted recruitment using social media and creating leads. We have enrolled 9 total, 6 before contract, 3 since. The campaign finishes next week and from there we will reassess. In addition, the Vanguard mailing, for incoming 9th graders for next year, is also planned. Ms. Karia asks if we anticipate any attrition on the 396 number?

Mr. Joseph discusses student interaction with online platforms. There is a group of teachers that is acting as a tech support team. Mr. Joseph is happy about the level of teamwork. Robust family engagement has continued. Home visits are being made to check on students that we have not heard from. Mr. Joseph would like to see more uniform practices across virtual classrooms to create a more coherent experience for students. Next Steps: Assist parents and

students to use technology and assist them to develop skills in using digital resources. Mr. Joseph added that we will not resume onsite instruction before late January, at the earliest.

6. Charter Renewal Update (5 minutes, ED)

Mr. Falla Riff stated that the DOE will perform site visits on Monday and Tuesday December, 7th and 8th. The public hearing will occur on Monday, December 7th, at 6 p.m., and the board interview will occur at 8 p.m. Mr. Joseph says that during the public hearing anyone can speak about the impact that Innovation High School has had upon them, the community at large, students staff, alumni, and parents. At the board interview, the authorizer will ask various questions about goals, progress and our impact on the community, what was successful. Mr. Sarkissian (Vice Chair) talked about preparing for the interview by reviewing significant data and narrative aspects of our mission so we are all on the same page. Mr. Falla Riff responds that we will do those things at the next board meeting and that he will send a package of materials to prepare the trustees for the board interview.

7. Appointment of Committee Members (15 minutes, Acting Chair & ED)

a. Executive Session (discussion of positions & candidates)

This agenda item was tabled and no executive session was held.

b. Appointment

This agenda item was tabled.

8. Public Speaking (5 minutes)

There was no public speaking.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.